

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Amended) The threaded screw fastener as set forth in Claim 32, wherein:

said dual drive means integrally formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener comprises first hexagonally configured drive means for engagement by correspondingly hexagonally configured rotary drive tool means, and second Phillips head drive means for engagement by correspondingly Phillips head configured rotary drive tool means.

3. (Previously Amended) The threaded screw fastener as set forth in Claim 2, wherein:

said underlying washer member of said head portion of said threaded screw fastener comprises a substantially circular washer member integrally formed upon said one end of

said threaded shank portion;

said first hexagonally configured drive means comprises upstanding structure disposed atop said substantially circular washer member; and

said second Phillips head drive means comprises a substantially X-shaped recessed portion defined within an axially central region of said first hexagonally configured upstanding structure disposed upon said substantially circular washer member.

4. (Previously Amended) The threaded screw fastener as set forth in Claim 3, wherein:

said substantially circular washer member has a predetermined diametrical extent as defined by said peripherally extending edge portion; and

said first hexagonally configured drive means, comprising said upstanding structure disposed atop said substantially circular washer member, has a diametrical extent which is substantially the same as said predetermined diametrical extent of said substantially circular washer member such that a plurality of shoulder portions are defined upon

said substantially circular washer member between said first hexagonally configured upstanding structure and said peripherally extending edge portion of said substantially circular washer member.

5. (Previously Amended) The threaded screw fastener as set forth in Claim 4, wherein:

said first hexagonally configured upstanding structure disposed atop said substantially circular washer member has a plurality of upstanding facets disposed around a peripheral portion of said upstanding structure; and

said dome-shaped, circumferentially extending downwardly sloped surface portion extends between, and interconnects, said substantially X-shaped recessed portion and said peripheral portion of said hexagonally configured upstanding structure defined by said plurality of upstanding facets.

6. (Previously Amended) The threaded screw fastener as set forth in Claim 2, wherein:

said underlying washer member of said head portion of said threaded screw fastener comprises a substantially circular washer member integrally formed upon said one end of said threaded shank portion and comprising said peripherally extending edge portion;

said first hexagonally configured drive means comprises a plurality of facets defined within said peripherally extending edge portion of said substantially circular washer member; and

said second Phillips head drive means comprises a substantially X-shaped recessed portion defined within an axially central region of said overlying dome-shaped circumferentially extending downwardly sloped surface portion of said head portion of said threaded screw fastener.

7. (Previously Amended) The threaded screw fastener as set forth in Claim 6, wherein:

said dome-shaped, circumferentially extending downwardly sloped surface portion extends between, and interconnects, said substantially X-shaped recessed portion and said peripheral portion of said hexagonally configured drive means

comprising said plurality of facets defined within said peripherally extending edge portion of said substantially circular washer member.

8. (Previously Amended) The threaded screw fastener as set forth in Claim 4, wherein:

said first hexagonally configured drive means comprises a plurality of facets radially set back from said peripherally extending edge portion of said substantially circular washer member while corner regions defined between adjacent ones of said plurality of facets are disposed at said peripherally extending edge portion of said substantially circular washer member; and

said second Phillips head drive means comprises a substantially X-shaped recessed portion defined within an axially central region of said overlying dome-shaped circumferentially extending downwardly sloped surface portion of said head portion of said threaded screw fastener.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Amended) The threaded screw fastener as set forth in Claim 32, wherein:

said dual drive means integrally formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener comprises first hexagonally configured drive means for engagement by correspondingly hexagonally configured rotary drive tool means, and second head drive means selected from the group comprising Phillips head drive means, Torx drive means, six-lobe drive means, internal hex drive means, and square drive means for engagement by correspondingly configured rotary drive tool means.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Amended) The combination as set forth in Claim 34, wherein:

said rotary drive tool further comprises a socket member defined around a longitudinal axis for enveloping said head portion of said threaded screw fastener; and

said drive means defined upon said rotary drive tool for engaging at least one of said dual drive means defined upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener is disposed internally within said socket member.

21. (Previously Amended) The combination as set forth in Claim 34, wherein:

said dual drive means integrally formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener comprises first hexagonally configured drive means for engagement by correspondingly hexagonally configured rotary drive tool means, and second Phillips head drive means for engagement by cor-



respondingly Phillips head configured rotary drive tool means; and

said drive means defined upon said rotary drive tool comprises at least one of hexagonally configured drive means for engaging said hexagonally configured drive means formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener, and Phillips head configured drive means for engaging said Phillips head configured drive means formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener.

22. (Original) The combination as set forth in Claim 21, wherein:

said dual drive means integrally formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener comprises first hexagonally configured drive means for engagement by correspondingly hexagonally configured rotary drive tool means, and second Phillips head drive means for engagement by correspondingly Phillips head configured rotary drive tool means; and

said drive means defined upon said rotary drive tool comprises both hexagonally configured drive means for

engaging said first hexagonally configured drive means formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener, and Phillips head configured drive means for engaging said second Phillips head configured drive means formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener.

23. (Previously Amended) The combination as set forth in Claim 34, wherein:

said dual drive means integrally formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener comprises first hexagonally configured drive means for engagement by correspondingly hexagonally configured rotary drive tool means, and second drive means selected from the group comprising Phillips head drive means, Torx drive means, six-lobe drive means, internal hex drive means, and square drive means for engagement by correspondingly configured rotary drive tool means; and

said drive means defined upon said rotary drive tool comprises both hexagonally configured drive means for engaging said first hexagonally configured drive means formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener, and

second drive means, selected from the group comprising Phillips head drive means, Torx drive means, six-lobe drive means, internal hex drive means, and square drive means, for engaging a corresponding one of said second drive means formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener.

24. (Previously Amended) The combination as set forth in Claim 20, wherein:

said socket member has a concavely configured dome-shaped surface portion disposed internally within said socket member for accommodating said correspondingly convexly configured dome-shaped surface portion of said head portion of said threaded screw fastener.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) The threaded screw fastener as set forth in Claim ~~27~~ 35, wherein:

said first radially outer forward flank surface is disposed at an angular orientation which is within the range of 20-40° with respect to a radius of said shank portion;

said second radially inner forward flank surface is disposed at an angular orientation which is within the range of 0-35° with respect to said radius of said shank portion;

said first radially outer rearward flank surface is disposed at an angular orientation which is with the range of 0-7° with respect to said radius of said shank portion; and

said second radially outer rearward flank surface is disposed at an angular orientation which is within the range of 0-7° with respect to said first radially outer rearward flank surface.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) A threaded screw fastener adapted to be rotatably driven into a substrate, comprising:

    a threaded shank portion defined around a longitudinal axis;

    a head portion formed upon one end of said threaded shank portion, wherein said head portion comprises an underlying washer member having a peripherally extending edge portion disposed within a radially outwardly extending plane with respect to said longitudinal axis of said threaded shank portion, and an overlying dome-shaped circumferentially extending downwardly sloped surface portion extending downwardly toward said underlying washer member such that first peripheral edge portions of said downwardly extending overlying domed surface portion meet with second peripheral edge sections of said peripherally extending edge portion of said

underlying washer member which are disposed within said radially outwardly extending plane; and

dual drive means integrally formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener for permitting said threaded screw fastener to be rotatably driven into a substrate by either one of two different types of rotary drive tools when either one of the two different types of rotary drive tools is respectively engaged with a corresponding one of said dual drive means integrally formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) In combination, a threaded screw fastener adapted to be rotatably driven into a substrate, and a rotary drive tool for rotatably driving said threaded screw fastener, comprising:

a threaded screw fastener comprising a threaded shank portion defined around a longitudinal axis; a head

portion formed upon one end of said threaded shank portion, wherein said head portion comprises an underlying washer member having a peripherally extending edge portion disposed within a radially outwardly extending plane with respect to said longitudinal axis of said threaded shank portion, and an overlying convexly configured dome-shaped circumferentially extending downwardly sloped surface portion extending downwardly toward said underlying washer member such that first peripheral edge portions of said downwardly extending overlying domed surface meet with second peripheral edge sections of said peripherally extending edge portion of said underlying washer member which are disposed within said radially outwardly extending plane; and dual drive means integrally formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener for permitting said threaded screw fastener to be rotatably driven into a substrate by either one of two different types of rotary drive tools when either one of the two different types of rotary drive tools is respectively engaged with a corresponding one of said dual drive means integrally formed upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener; and

a rotary drive tool for rotatably driving said threaded screw fastener into a substrate, said rotary drive tool having drive means defined thereon for engaging at least

one of said dual drive means defined upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener in order to rotatably drive said threaded screw fastener into the substrate,

whereby said threaded screw fastener can be rotatably driven and installed within the substrate provided said drive means defined upon said rotary tool corresponds to at least one of said dual drive means defined upon said head portion of said threaded screw fastener.

35. (New) A threaded screw fastener, adapted to be rotatably driven into a substrate, comprising:

a shank portion defined around a longitudinal axis;

a head portion formed upon one end of said shank portion; and

a plurality of threads disposed upon said shank portion of said threaded screw fastener and having a predetermined radially outward extent as measured along a radius extending perpendicular to said longitudinal axis of said shank portion;

wherein each one of said plurality of threads, disposed upon said shank portion of said threaded screw fasten-



er, comprises a crest portion disposed substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis of said shank portion, a rearward flank portion, and a forward flank portion;

wherein said forward flank portion of each one of said plurality of threads comprises first and second radially outer and radially inner flank surfaces wherein said first radially outer flank surface has a radially outer end portion integrally connected to said crest portion, a radially inner end portion of said first radially outer flank surface is integrally connected to a radially outer end portion of said second radially inner flank surface, and a radially inner end portion of said second radially inner flank surface is integrally connected to said shank portion, wherein said second radially inner forward flank surface is always disposed at a steeper angle with respect to said longitudinal axis of said shank portion than is said first radially outer forward flank surface such that less material is effectively present upon said forward flank portion of each one of said plurality of threads within the vicinity of said longitudinal axis of said shank portion such that installation torque of said threaded screw fastener, when installed within the substrate, is substantially reduced; and

wherein substantially the entire radial extent of

said rearward flank portion of each one of said plurality of threads is disposed substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis of said shank portion, such that pull-out resistance of said threaded screw fastener, after being installed within the substrate, is substantially increased, and comprises first and second radially outer and radially inner flank surfaces wherein said first radially outer flank surface has a radially outer end portion integrally connected to said crest portion, a radially inner end portion of said first radially outer flank surface is integrally connected to a radially outer end portion of said second radially inner flank surface, and a radially inner end portion of said second radially inner flank surface is integrally connected to said shank portion, wherein said second radially inner rearward flank surface is always disposed at a steeper angle with respect to said longitudinal axis of said shank portion than is said first radially outer rearward flank surface such that pull-out resistance of said threaded screw fastener, when installed within the substrate, is substantially increased.